

Watford win 5—1, but Wycombe W. not disgraced

Sports Mail Special Report

WATFORD 5 : WYCOMBE WANDS 1

MORE than 5,000 Wycombe supporters were at Watford today to see Wycombe Wanderers beaten 5—1 by Fourth Division Watford in the amateur club's first-ever second round appearance in the F.A. Cup.

Watford: Linton, Price, Nicholas, Catleugh, McNeice, Chung, Benning, Holton, Uphill, Hartle, Bunce.

Wycombe: Syrett, Beck, Moring, Truett, Fisher, Fryer, Atkins, Trott, Bates, Howson, Free.

Referee: J W Hunt (Emsworth).

After Wycombe had forced the first corner in the first minute, Watford took up the running and Syrett cleared well being over-owed by the occasionally.

Wycombe showed no signs of being over-awed by the occasion and some neat moves and a fast pace had the home defence at action stations.

Watford, however, looked very dangerous in their attacks and took the lead eight minutes after the start, when Hartle beat two defenders to enable UPHILL to beat Syrett easily with a powerful well-placed shot.

When Wycombe were awarded a free kick on the left, Linton saved Free's accurate kick.

Watford, however, generally kept the initiative with sweeping attacks shooting hard for goal at every opportunity.

Eighteen minutes after the start a foul on Bates gave Wycombe another free kick just outside the penalty area and ATKINS equalised direct with a tremendous shot into the far corner of the net.

The goal electrified the game, both sides attacking swiftly in turn and first Uphill and then Holton missed easy chances for Watford.

Syrett snatched a shot from Benning off the goal line just in time and a little later saved another certain goal by flinging out an arm at a shot from Holton.

Five minutes from half-time Watford were awarded a free kick and from Catleugh's kick, UPHILL put the home side ahead with a neat header.

SCORE THIRD

Then a few seconds before the interval HOLTON broke through to add a third for Watford.

Half-time: Watf'd 3 Wycombe 1

Wycombe pressed with great spirit after the interval, and there was a major thrill for the crowd of 24,000 after a shot by Trott had cannoned off the goalkeeper for a corner.

Centre half Fisher joined two Wycombe forwards in a challenge for Atkins's flag kick and the ball was scrambled off the line as the referee awarded a free kick for a foul on the goalkeeper.

MISJUDGED SHOT

A knock-out goal by centre half McNEICE after 51 minutes staggered Wycombe. Syrett misjudged a 40-yard dropping shot which spun in over his head. Wycombe sent Atkins again when they were awarded another free kick, but this time the winger shot tamely wide.

The strong Watford team were now well on top. But Wycombe were a little unlucky when a wing shot from Free was cleared off the goal-line and again when Trott broke away on his own and saw his hard shot well saved by Linton.

Uphill got the ball in again for Watford but was ruled off-side.

When Watford slackened the pace towards the close Wycombe had more of the play and two minutes before the end they were awarded a penalty for a foul on Bates. Bates taking the kick himself shot straight at the keeper who saved.

In the last minute Watford were awarded a penalty and HOLTON scored from the spot to make it 5—1.

RESULT:

WATFORD 5
WYCOMBE W. 1